

REMARKS**REMARKS -GENERAL-**

1) Office Action cited US Patents 3,027,067 to Johnson and 5,607,100 to Stenner. After reviewing them, none of these documents is believed to prevent patentability.

2) A Request for a Continued Examination is submitted herewith.

3) New Attachments **11A, 11B, 12, 13 and 14** (consisting of side **A** and Side **B**) are submitted herewith.

4) In the above Amendment,

- Title was changed to better identify the invention.
- A Substitute Specification, consisting of a marked and an unmarked copy is submitted.
- A Statement certifying that no new matter was introduced is submitted.
- Amendments were implemented to the specification to cancel incorporation by reference of Application # 09/130,534 as required by Office and to better explain the invention.
- A substitute Abstract, consisting of a marked copy and an unmarked copy is submitted.
- **All prior claims were canceled and new claims 45-70 were submitted. All new claims are clearly patentable over any cited references because:**

1) As product or article claims, they recite the product or article as it is manufactured, and the condition in which it is offered to the public.

2) 'Panels' or 'pockets' are not a structural part of this invention, as they are merely a resultant of its use and function. Hence, they need not to be recited, but if they are recited, they only provide mode of use teachings, and hence do not constitute a structural part of the (article) claim.

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REMARKS -ARGUMENTS-

On page 11, 2nd paragraph, Office Action requested that applicant points out the structural differences of the claimed invention with respect to Schieman's envelope.

And on page 11, 4th paragraph, Office Action states that arguments presented on page 39 (of Amendment A) about structural differences are not persuasive because the claims do not preclude these structural differences, since, according to O.A.: *"even though Schieman's panels and flaps are arranged differently than applicant's disclosed forms, they are not arranged differently than applicant's claimed forms"* (Emphasis in original) (End of quote)

The disclosed and claimed invention is an extremely simple product, which consists of essentially four elements, namely **1)** at least one flap; **2)** a body; **3)** at least one layer of adhesive, **4)** at least one layer of adhesive inhibitor. The "Claimed" invention is summarized by the first 5 lines of the first paragraph of page 4 of the specification. While the disclosed invention (mode of making and mode of using) is summarized by the entire first paragraph of page 4 ("Summary of the Invention").

(Also see abstract discussion of the invention on page 10 and page 11, para. 1-7 of specification.)

Accordingly, none of the claims submitted recites any panel at all. 'Panels' are not a part of the claimed invention. They are an incidental resultant of the use of the invention, after the product has been manufactured, and sold or otherwise made available to the user, and after s/he has used it. The condition the product is offered to the public in, is shown in **FIGS. 7B; 9B; 10B; 12B; 15B; 21** and **25B**. Additionally, **FIG 8** shows a finished form, further having pre-printed information, to be filled out by the user.

There are no panels in the claimed invention, as there are no panels in a letter piece of paper, when the product is purchased. That is what in essence this invention (article) is, "a letter sheet, which happens to be able to wrap and seal itself."

Further, it is not even indispensable to have "score lines" or "folding lines" as specifically stated on the last sentence of 4th paragraph of page 12 of the specification, i.e. *"Score or folding lines may also be substituted by printed guides, or may simply be omitted."*

Applicant respectfully submits that these structural differences define this invention as a completely distinct product with respect to Schieman's envelope, or any other envelope, and accordingly, respectfully requests that such references are not applied against any of the claims.

Applicant respectfully brings to the Office's attention new **ATTACHMENTS 11A, 11B, 12**, respectively derived from ATTACHMENTS 3A, 3B and 5, which offer further explanations about the structural definition of this invention as a manufactured product, and its differentiation with respect to Schieman's envelope. Also, **ATTACHMENT 13**, and **ATTACHMENT 14** (having a side A and a side B), which was derived from Exhibit G of Affidavit2, are also submitted and likewise, include further explanations and comments.

For easy distinction, all these explanations and comments on those attachments are presented in **'reversed'** form, i.e. white text against black background.

(O.A. para. 1) **Requirement to cancel Incorporation of Application 09/130,534, for being new matter**

Such incorporation has been canceled.

(O.A. para. 2, 3) **Rejection of claim 28 under 35 USC 112, 2nd para., as being indefinite**

Claim 28 has been canceled

(O.A. para. 4) **Rejection of claims 29-34 under 35 USC. 112, 2nd. para. as being indefinite**

Claims 29-34 have been canceled

(O.A. para. 5) **Conditional objection of claim 38, under 37 CFR 1.75, as being a duplicate of claim 36**

Claim 38 has been canceled

(O.A. para. 6, 7) **Rejection of claims 23 and 35 under 35 USC 102(b) as anticipated by Schieman.**

Claims 23 and 35 were canceled.

However, applicant respectfully re-states disagreement about envelopes cited against this

invention; as the claimed **product** invention does not have any panels to form a container (or for any purpose.) It simply does not have any panels at all.

The subsequent **use** of the claimed invention may entail the production of 'panels', but that is by definition, an aspect of its use or function, after the finished product was purchased by the user or otherwise made accessible to the user. Please, refer to attachments **11A, 11B, 12, 13 and 14**. Product claims 23-35 do not recite any panels.

(O.A. para. 8) **Rejection of claim 42 under 35 USC 102(b) as anticipated by Schieman.**

Claim 42 was canceled.

However, applicant respectfully re-states disagreement about envelopes cited against this invention; as the **claimed product** invention does not have any panels to form a container (or for any purpose.) It simply does not have any panels at all.

The subsequent **use** of the claimed invention may entail the production of 'panels', but that is by definition, an aspect of its use or function, after the finished product was purchased by the user or otherwise made accessible to the user. Please, refer to attachments **11A, 11B, 12, 13 and 14**. Product claim 42 does not recite any panels.

(O.A. para. 9, 10) **Rejection of claims 24-27 under USC 103(a) as unpatentable over Schieman in view of Stenner**

Claims 24-27 were canceled.

However, applicant respectfully re-states disagreement about envelopes cited against this invention; as the claimed **product** invention does not have any panels to form a container (or for any purpose.) It simply does not have any panels at all.

The subsequent **use** of the claimed invention may entail the production of 'panels', but that is by definition, an aspect of its use or function, after the finished product was purchased by the user or otherwise made accessible to the user. Please, refer to attachments **11A, 11B, 12, 13 and 14**. Product claims 24-27 do not recite any panels.

(O.A. para. 11) **Rejection of claims 23, 28, 29, 35, 36 and 38 under USC 103(a) as unpatentable over Schieman in view of Wilbur**

Claims 23, 28, 29, 35, 36 and 38 were canceled.

However, applicant respectfully re-states disagreement about envelopes cited against this invention; as the claimed **product** invention does not have any panels to form a container (or for any purpose.) It simply does not have any panels at all.

The subsequent **use** of the claimed invention may entail the production of 'panels', but that is by definition, an aspect of its use or function, after the finished product was purchased by the user or otherwise made accessible to the user. Please, refer to attachments **11A, 11B, 12, 13 and 14**.

Product claims 23, 28, 29, 35, 36 and 38 do not recite any panels.

(O.A. para. 12) **Rejection of claims 24-27 under USC 103(a) as unpatentable over Schieman in view of Wilbur**

Claims 24-27 were canceled.

However, applicant respectfully re-states disagreement about envelopes cited against this invention; as the claimed **product** invention does not have any panels to form a container (or for any purpose.) It simply does not have any panels at all.

The subsequent **use** of the claimed invention may entail the production of 'panels', but that is by definition, an aspect of its use or function, after the finished product was purchased by the user or otherwise made accessible to the user. Please, refer to attachments **11A, 11B, 12, 13 and 14**.

Product claims 24-27 do not recite any panels.

(O.A. para. 13) **Rejection of claims 30-34 under USC 103(a) as unpatentable over Schieman in view of Wilbur**

Claims 30-34 were canceled.

However, applicant respectfully re-states disagreement about envelopes cited against this invention; as the claimed **product** invention does not have any panels to form a container (or for any purpose.) It simply does not have any panels at all.

The subsequent **use** of the claimed invention may entail the production of 'panels', but that is by

definition, an aspect of its use or function, after the finished product was purchased by the user or otherwise made accessible to the user. Please, refer to attachments 11A, 11B, 12, 13 and 14. Product claims 30-34 do not recite any panels.

(O.A. para. 14) **Rejection of claims 37 and 39-41 under USC 103(a) as unpatentable over Schieman in view of Wilbur**

Claims 37 and 39-41 were canceled.

However, applicant respectfully re-states disagreement about envelopes cited against this invention; as the claimed **product** invention does not have any panels to form a container (or for any purpose.) It simply does not have any panels at all.

The subsequent **use** of the claimed invention may entail the production of 'panels', but that is by definition, an aspect of its use or function, after the finished product was purchased by the user or otherwise made accessible to the user. Please, refer to attachments 11A, 11B, 12, 13 and 14. Product claims 37 and 39-41 do not recite any panels.

(O.A. para. 15) **Rejection of claims 37 and 39-41 under USC 103(a) as unpatentable over Schieman in view of Stenner**

Claims 37 and 39-41 were canceled.

However, applicant respectfully re-states disagreement about envelopes cited against this invention; as the claimed **product** invention does not have any panels to form a container (or for any purpose.) It simply does not have any panels at all.

The subsequent **use** of the claimed invention may entail the production of 'panels', but that is by definition, an aspect of its use or function, after the finished product was purchased by the user or otherwise made accessible to the user. Please, refer to attachments 11A, 11B, 12, 13 and 14. Product claims 37 and 39-41 do not recite any panels.

(O.A. para. 16) **Rejection of claim 42 under USC 103(a) as unpatentable over Schieman in view of Wilbur**

Claim 42 was canceled.

However, applicant respectfully re-states disagreement about envelopes cited against this

invention; as the claimed **product** invention does not have any panels to form a container (or for any purpose.) It simply does not have any panels at all.

The subsequent **use** of the claimed invention may entail the production of 'panels', but that is by definition, an aspect of its use or function, after the finished product was purchased by the user or otherwise made accessible to the user. Please, refer to attachments **11A, 11B, 12, 13 and 14**.

Product claim 42 does not recite any panels.

(O.A. para. 17) **Rejection of claims 43 and 44 under USC 103(a) as unpatentable over
Schieman in view of Stenner**

Claims 43 and 44 were canceled.

However, applicant respectfully re-states disagreement about envelopes cited against this invention; as the claimed **product** invention does not have any panels to form a container (or for any purpose.) It simply does not have any panels at all.

The subsequent **use** of the claimed invention may entail the production of 'panels', but that is by definition, an aspect of its use or function, after the finished product was purchased by the user or otherwise made accessible to the user. Please, refer to attachments **11A, 11B, 12, 13 and 14**.

Product claims 43 and 44 do not recite any panels.

(O.A. para. 18) **Rejection of claims 43 and 44 under USC 103(a) as unpatentable over
Schieman in view of Wilbur**

Claims 43 and 44 were canceled.

However, applicant respectfully re-states disagreement about envelopes cited against this invention; as the claimed **product** invention does not have any panels to form a container (or for any purpose.) It simply does not have any panels at all.

The subsequent **use** of the claimed invention may entail the production of 'panels', but that is by definition, an aspect of its use or function, after the finished product was purchased by the user or otherwise made accessible to the user. Please, refer to attachments **11A, 11B, 12, 13 and 14**.

Product claims 43 and 44 do not recite any panels.

(O.A. para. 19) **Rejection of claims 23, 35 and 42 under USC 103(a) as unpatentable over Johnson in view of either Wilbur or Schieman**

Claims 23, 35 and 42 were canceled.

However, applicant respectfully re-states disagreement about envelopes cited against this invention; as the claimed **product** invention does not have any panels to form a container (or for any purpose.) It simply does not have any panels at all.

The subsequent **use** of the claimed invention may entail the production of 'panels', but that is by definition, an aspect of its use or function, after the finished product was purchased by the user or otherwise made accessible to the user. Please, refer to attachments 11A, 11B, 12, 13 and 14.

Product claims 23, 35 and 42 do not recite any panels.

(O.A. para. 20) **Rejection of claims 24-27 under USC 103(a) as unpatentable over Johnson in view of either Wilbur or Schieman**

Claims 24-27 were canceled.

However, applicant respectfully re-states disagreement about envelopes cited against this invention; as the claimed **product** invention does not have any panels to form a container (or for any purpose.) It simply does not have any panels at all.

The subsequent **use** of the claimed invention may entail the production of 'panels', but that is by definition, an aspect of its use or function, after the finished product was purchased by the user or otherwise made accessible to the user. Please, refer to attachments 11A, 11B, 12, 13 and 14.

Product claims 24-27 do not recite any panels.

(O.A. para. 21) **Rejection of claims 28 and 29 under USC 103(a) as unpatentable over Johnson in view of Wilbur**

Claims 28 and 29 were canceled.

However, applicant respectfully re-states disagreement about envelopes cited against this invention; as the claimed **product** invention does not have any panels to form a container (or for any purpose.) It simply does not have any panels at all.

The subsequent **use** of the claimed invention may entail the production of 'panels', but that is by

definition, an aspect of its use or function, after the finished product was purchased by the user or otherwise made accessible to the user. Please, refer to attachments 11A, 11B, 12, 13 and 14. Product claims 28 and 29 do not recite any panels.

(O.A. para. 22) **Rejection of claims 30-34 under USC 103(a) as unpatentable over Johnson in view of Wilbur**

Claims 30-34 were canceled.

However, applicant respectfully re-states disagreement about envelopes cited against this invention; as the claimed **product** invention does not have any panels to form a container (or for any purpose.) It simply does not have any panels at all.

The subsequent **use** of the claimed invention may entail the production of 'panels', but that is by definition, an aspect of its use or function, after the finished product was purchased by the user or otherwise made accessible to the user. Please, refer to attachments 11A, 11B, 12, 13 and 14. Product claims 30-34 do not recite any panels.

(O.A. para. 23) **Rejection of claims 35, 36, 38 and 42 under USC 103(a) as unpatentable over Johnson in view of Wilbur**

Claims 35, 36, 38 and 42 were canceled.

However, applicant respectfully re-states disagreement about envelopes cited against this invention; as the claimed **product** invention does not have any panels to form a container (or for any purpose.) It simply does not have any panels at all.

The subsequent **use** of the claimed invention may entail the production of 'panels', but that is by definition, an aspect of its use or function, after the finished product was purchased by the user or otherwise made accessible to the user. Please, refer to attachments 11A, 11B, 12, 13 and 14. Product claims 35, 36, 38 and 42 do not recite any panels.

(O.A. para. 24) **Rejection of claims 37 and 39-41 under USC 103(a) as unpatentable over Johnson in view of either Wilbur or Schieman**

Claims 37 and 39-41 were canceled.

However, applicant respectfully re-states disagreement about envelopes cited against this

invention; as the claimed **product** invention does not have any panels to form a container (or for any purpose.) It simply does not have any panels at all.

The subsequent **use** of the claimed invention may entail the production of 'panels', but that is by definition, an aspect of its **use** or **function**, after the finished product was purchased by the user or otherwise made accessible to the user.

Product claims 37 and 39-41 do not recite any panels.

(O.A. para. 25) **Rejection of claims 43 and 44 under USC 103(a) as unpatentable over Johnson in view of either Wilbur or Schieman**

Claims 43 and 44 were canceled.

However, applicant respectfully re-states disagreement about envelopes cited against this invention; as the claimed **product** invention does not have any panels to form a container (or for any purpose.) It simply does not have any panels at all.

The subsequent **use** of the claimed invention may entail the production of 'panels', but that is by definition, an aspect of its **use** or **function**, after the finished product was purchased by the user or otherwise made accessible to the user. Please, refer to attachments **11A, 11B, 12, 13 and 14**.

Product claims 43 and 44 do not recite any panels.

COMMENTS TO RESPONSES TO ARGUMENTS

(O.A. 26) **Regarding the term "*Form*"**

Applicant respectfully points out to the fact that, regardless of any possible ambiguities in its definition, the term "form" is defined within the context of the specification, i.e. **no** envelope is intended to be encompassed by it.

(O.A. 26) **Regarding the sentence "*A form can also be described as a a mailer or any other equivalent term*"**

Applicant respectfully submits that this sentence **was not** *neglected* from the reply. It was deliberately omitted, as it now results clear that a "mailer" may have ambiguous interpretations beyond the intended definition and more importantly: **beyond the disclosure of the specification. No envelopes are disclosed in it.**

Accordingly, this sentence has also been deleted from the specification.

(O.A. 26) **Regarding the construction of applicant's embodiments**

On page 10, O.A. states:

"... each of Applicants disclosed embodiments has the construction of an envelope, i.e., each includes panels and flaps secured together in a manner which forms at least one pocket into which contents can be placed..."

Applicant respectfully submits that as stated on page 14, the structural construction of this invention, as an apparatus or article, does not require any panels, and hence does not produce any pockets. The finished claimed product is illustrated with **FIGS. 7B; 9B; 10B; 12B; 15B; 21 and 25B**. Additionally, **FIG 8** shows a finished form, further having pre-printed information, to be filled out by the user.

Applicant further brings to the Office's attention **FIG. 1** of **ATTACHMENT14** and corresponding caption, derived from Exhibit G of Affidavit 2.

Any panels disclosed in the specification, are only a function of the use of the invention, after the invention was manufactured, and sold. And further, none of the claims submitted recite any panels or pockets.

(O.A. 26) **Regarding 'article claims', which must define over the prior art in terms of structure. not just function or intended use**

On page 10, O.A. states:

"... Arguing that the disclosed envelope constructions are not envelopes, but "forms" because no content item is included is an argument relating only to intended use. A claim to an article must define over the prior art in terms of structure, not just function or intended use ..."

The premise that an article claim must define over the prior art in terms of structure and not just function, or intended use, actually militates in favor of applicant's arguments; as any panels or any pockets that may incidentally be involved in this invention, are only a result of its use and performance by the user, after the article has been produced (and marketed) and, hence are not a structural aspect of this product.

By law, applicant is required to teach **a)** how to make the invention and **b)** how to use the invention. Applicant has satisfied both these requirements in the specification. The 'use' and 'function' aspects discussed in the specification can not be read into 'article claims', as it has been already established by the Office itself.

The 'panels' that may result when the user is folding the form , after the product was manufactured and sold, are not recited in the claims.

And this is because they need not to be recited in the (article or product) claims, to claim the invention but, even if they are, they merely provide functional and intended use clauses, that should not be construed as a structural element.

Therefore, their absence constitutes a fundamental differentiation from any envelope construction. Therefore, applicant respectfully requests that no envelope is referenced against any of the claims.

(O.A. 26) **Regarding the term "*correspondence*" not limiting the definition of the word "*form*"**

Applicant respectfully points out to the fact that, regardless of any possible ambiguities in its definition, the term "correspondence" (just as with the term "form") is defined within the context of the specification, i.e. **no** envelope is intended to be encompassed by it. There is no better definition than what is disclosed in the specification and shown in the drawings, and absolutely NO envelope is disclosed in the specification or shown in the drawings.

(O.A. 26) **Regarding structural differences between Schieman's envelope and this invention**

Please, refer to ADS (Application Data Sheet), where FIG. 7A is suggested for the drawing figure, as it illustrates all the necessary elements of the invention (and also some dispensable elements), but it absolutely excludes any panels (or pockets), as they are a function of the use of the invention, and NOT a structural part of the manufactured invention, as it is to be offered to the public.

Also, applicant respectfully brings to the Office's attention new **ATTACHMENTS 11A, 11B, 12**, respectively derived from ATTACHMENTS 3A, 3B and 5, which offer further explanations about

the structural definition of this invention as a manufactured product, and its differentiation with respect to Schieman's envelope. Also, **ATTACHMENT 13**, derived from sheet 3/14 of drawings, and **ATTACHMENT 14** (having a side **A** and a side **B**), which was derived from Exhibit G of Affidavit 1, are also submitted and likewise, include further explanations and comments.

For easy distinction, all these additional explanations and comments on those Attachments are presented in **reversed** form, i.e. white text against black background.

Given the criticality of these differences, applicant addressed them at the beginning of these arguments, on pages 14 and 15. Applicant respectfully re-states them as follows:

On page 11, 2nd paragraph, Office Action requested that applicant points out the structural differences of the claimed invention with respect to Schieman's envelope.

And on page 11, 4th paragraph, Office Action states that arguments presented on page 39 (of Amendment A) about structural differences are not persuasive because the claims do not preclude these structural differences, since according to O.A.: "even though Schieman's panels and flaps are arranged differently than applicant's disclosed forms, they are not arranged differently than applicant's claimed forms" (Emphasis in original) (End of quote)

The disclosed and claimed invention is an extremely simple product, which consists of essentially four elements, namely **1)** at least one flap; **2)** a body; **3)** at least one layer of adhesive, **4)** at least one layer of adhesive inhibitor. The "Claimed" invention is summarized by the first 5 lines of the first paragraph of page 4 of the specification. While the disclosed invention (mode of making and mode of using) is summarized by the entire first paragraph of page 4 ("Summary of the Invention").

(Also see abstract discussion of the invention on page 10 and page 11, para. 1-7 of specification.)

Accordingly, none of the claims submitted recite any panel at all. 'Panels' are not a part of the invention. They are an incidental resultant of the use of the invention, after the product has been manufactured, and sold or otherwise made available to the user, and after s/he has used it. The condition the product is offered to the public in, is shown in **FIGS. 7B; 9B; 10B; 12B; 15B; 21**

and **25B**. Additionally, **FIG 8** shows a finished form, further having pre-printed information, to be filled out by the user.

There are **no panels** in the **claimed** invention, as there are no panels in a letter piece of paper (*or any other format*), when the product is purchased. That is what in essence this invention (product) is, "a letter sheet, which happens to be able to wrap and seal itself."

Further, it is not even indispensable to have "score lines" or "folding lines" as specifically stated on the last sentence of 4th paragraph of page 12 of the specification, i.e. "*Score or folding lines may also be substituted by printed guides, or may simply be omitted.*"

Applicant respectfully submits that these structural differences define this invention as a completely distinct product with respect to Schieman's envelope, or any other envelope, and accordingly, respectfully requests that such references are not applied against any of the claims.

(O.A. 26) **Regarding arguments about Fisher being 'moot'**

Applicant respectfully submits that claims **7-9, 11,12,14** and **15** were in fact rejected by O.A. of March 11, 2002 as unpatentable under Fisher US Pat. 4,487,360 in view of Schieman U.S. Pat 2,367,440. Fisher is also referenced in rejection of claims **10, 13** and **16**. (See page 5, para. #'s 11, 12 and 13)

(O.A. 26) **Regarding Affidavit 1 being mostly a 'rehash' of arguments, and failing to prove commercial success**

Applicant is confused by this response.

First, this affidavit is not at all related to commercial success.

Second, this affidavit is a systematic, in-depth analysis of critical issues related to patentability, with tests and point-by-point comparisons, conducted by applicant, which for that reason, needed to be presented in a sworn affidavit form, and which were not discussed in the arguments, except for a cursory introduction —regarding only some of the statements— and to refer the reader to the affidavit. Therefore, affidavit 2 could not be considered a 'rehash' of the arguments.

(O.A. 26) **Regarding Affidavit 2, as failing to present factual evidence**

Applicant is also confused by this response.

This affidavit is the affidavit that is somewhat related to "commercial success". However, it was not

submitted as proof of 'commercial success'. As indicated in the amendment, and the affidavit itself, the affidavit was submitted as proof of **potential** for commercial success in response to examiner's comments during the interview suggesting that the absence of a product embodying this invention in the marketplace or in patent libraries may be due to lack of commercial merits.

If the 'factual evidence' relates to the actual affidavit 1, applicant can not assess whether or not the evidence submitted is considered factual under patent law. However, applicant respectfully submits that Affidavit 1 presents persuasive evidence indicating, among other things:

- That there has been a long felt need in the art and that others have attempted but failed to effectively address
- That there are references closer in structure than references cited, which do not anticipate the unexpected results and advantages of the claimed invention.

If the 'rehash' relates to the actual affidavit 2 (related to potential of commercial success), applicant respectfully submits that **none** of the statements in affidavit 2 was discussed in the arguments, and therefore can not be a 'rehash'

(O.A. 26) Regarding Affidavit 3, as not constituting factual evidence, because it was an opinion poll

Applicant respectfully submits that the poll was not about opinion.

The poll was about perception. The Affidavit merely intended to point out what the public perceives as 'correspondence' via a sample poll, due to the fact that 'meaning' is a function of 'perception'.

Conclusion

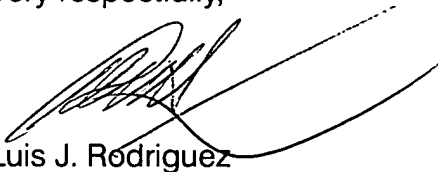
Application is now in condition for allowance

Given all the preceding arguments and amendments, and if the request to allow previously submitted claims, is not granted, applicant submits that this application, including newly submitted claims is in condition for allowance, action which is hereby respectfully requested.

Conclusion
Conditional Request For Constructive Assistance

If for any reason, this application is not believed to be in full condition for allowance,
Applicant respectfully requests the constructive assistance and suggestions of the examiner pursuant to MPEP section 706.03 9d) and section 707.07 (j) in order that the undersigned can place this application in allowable condition as soon as possible and without the need for further proceedings.

Very respectfully,



Luis J. Rodriguez

-----Applicant Pro Se-----

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Date of Mailing: August 24, 2002

I hereby certify that this correspondence, including its attachments is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "EXPRESS MAIL TO ADDRESSEE" Service **EU444555146US** under 37 CFR 1.10 on the date indicated above, and is addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, Box RCE Washington, D.C. 20231

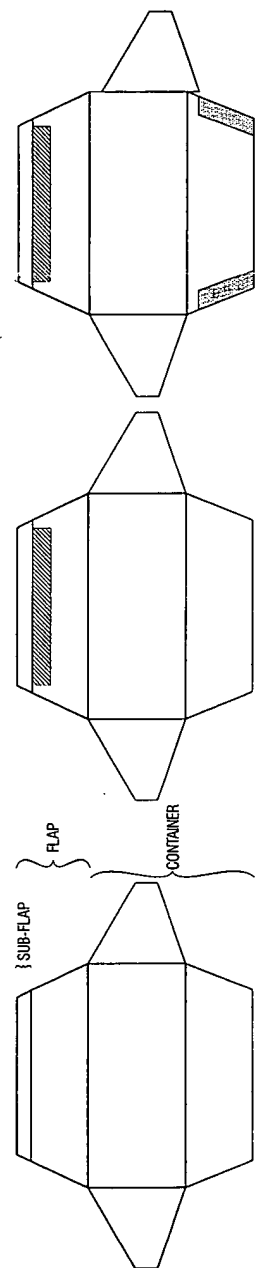
Luis J. Rodriguez, Applicant

Signed: _____



I. CONSTRUCTION OF SHIEMAN'S ENVELOPE (1st EMBODIMENT, FIGS. 1-4) II. DEFINING PURPOSE OF: SCHIEMAN'S ENVELOPE VS. SELF SEALING FORM (09/978,215)

SHIEMAN'S ENVELOPE/ FIRST EMBODIMENT, FIGS 1-4



I.1 Envelope is cut and scored

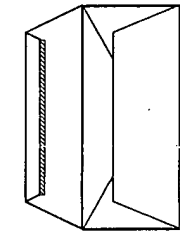
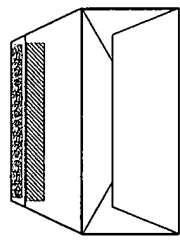
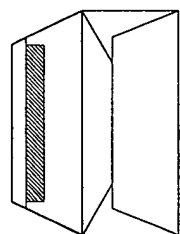
I.2 Repellent (Adhesive inhibitor) is applied

I.3 Construction Adhesive is applied

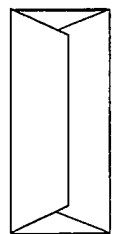
I.4 Envelope is assembled

I.5 Sealing adhesive (PSA) is applied

I.6 Sub-flap is bent to protect adhesive



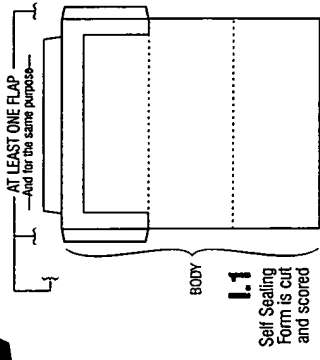
THIS IS SCHIEMAN'S FINAL PRODUCT. As indicated in Attachment 5, Schieman's product has a Back Wall (Back Panel) and a Front Wall (Front Panel), to form a container. *And it further has a two part flap.*



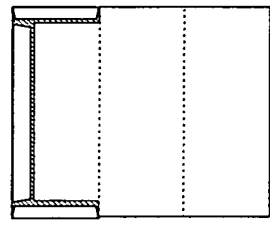
I.7 Flap—including sub-flap—is bent against front wall of container

STRUCTURAL DIFFERENCES BETWEEN PRODUCTS

Products are compared after they are manufactured and offered to the public. Any 'USE' consideration, is excluded, as all claims in this application are 'product' claims

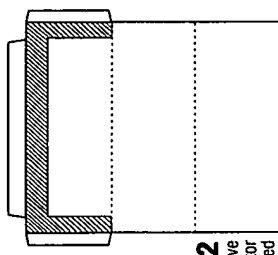


I.1 Self Sealing Form is cut and scored

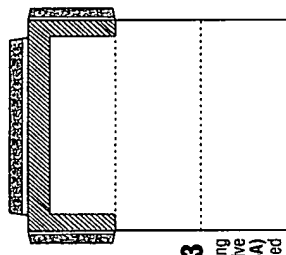


I.4 Flaps are folded against the body

THIS IS 09/978,215's FINAL PRODUCT.
As indicated in Attachment 5, This invention has only a body, and at least one flap, it does not have any 'panels' and it does not form a container. It does not even require any score lines.
And further, its at least one flap, is always a single part flap.



I.2 Adhesive inhibitor is applied



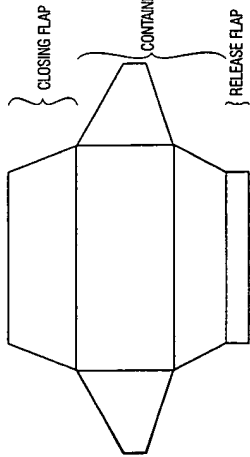
I.3 Sealing adhesive (PSA) is applied

II. Self Sealing Form is now ready to receive imprinting of:
1) a private message
2) addressing information

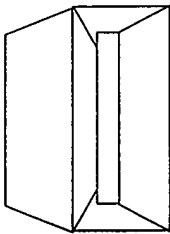
All in one production step, and one trip of the form across the printer.
See Figs. 7C, 9C, 10D-10F, 12C, 14B-14D, 17B-17D, 23B-23D, 24B-24E, 25C-25G

I. CONSTRUCTION OF SHIEMAN'S ENVELOPE (2nd EMBODIMENT, FIGS. 5-7)
II. DEFINING PURPOSE OF: SCHIEMAN'S ENVELOPE VS. SELF SEALING FORM (09/978,215)

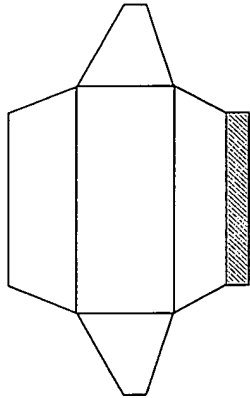
SHIEMAN'S ENVELOPE/ SECOND EMBODIMENT, FIGS 5-7



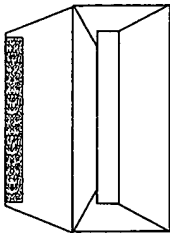
I.1 Envelope is cut and scored



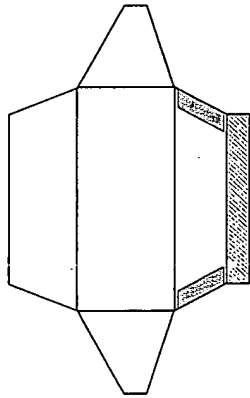
I.4 Envelope is assembled



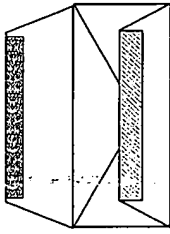
I.2 Repellent (Adhesive inhibitor) is applied



I.5 Sealing adhesive (PSA) is applied



I.3 Construction Adhesive is applied

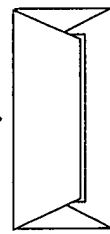


I.6 Sub-flap is bent to protect adhesive

THIS IS SCHIEMAN'S FINAL PRODUCT. As indicated in Attachment 5, Schieman's product has a Back Wall (Back Panel) and a Front Wall (Front Panel), to form a container. And it further has a two part flap.

II. Envelope is now ready to receive imprinting of addressing information ONLY. No private message can be imprinted. In order to have a private message, a separate item (piece of paper) must be used, and then inserted into the envelope.

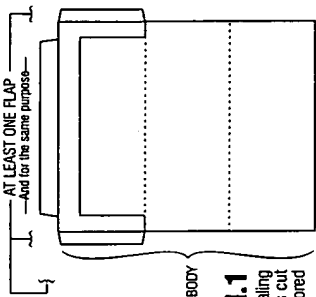
See ATTACHMENT 4.



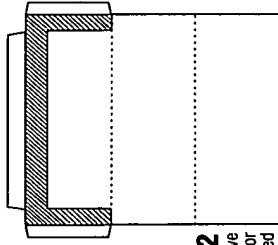
I.7 Flap -including sub-flap- is bent against front wall of container

STRUCTURAL DIFFERENCES BETWEEN PRODUCTS

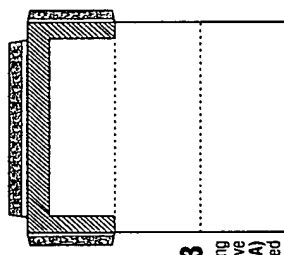
Products are compared after they are manufactured and offered to the public. Any 'USE' consideration, is excluded, as all claims in this application are 'product' claims



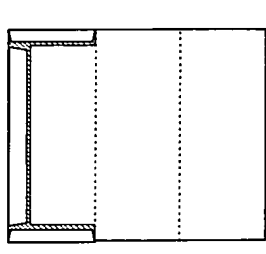
I.1 Self Sealing Form is cut and scored



I.2 Adhesive inhibitor is applied



I.3 Sealing adhesive (PSA) is applied



I.4 Flaps are folded against the body

THIS IS 09/978,215's FINAL PRODUCT.

As indicated in Attachment 5, This invention has only a body, and at least one flap, it does not have any 'panels' and it does not form a container. It does not even require any score lines. And further, its at least one flap, is always a single part flap.

II. Self Sealing Form is now ready to receive imprinting of:

- 1) a private message
- 2) addressing information

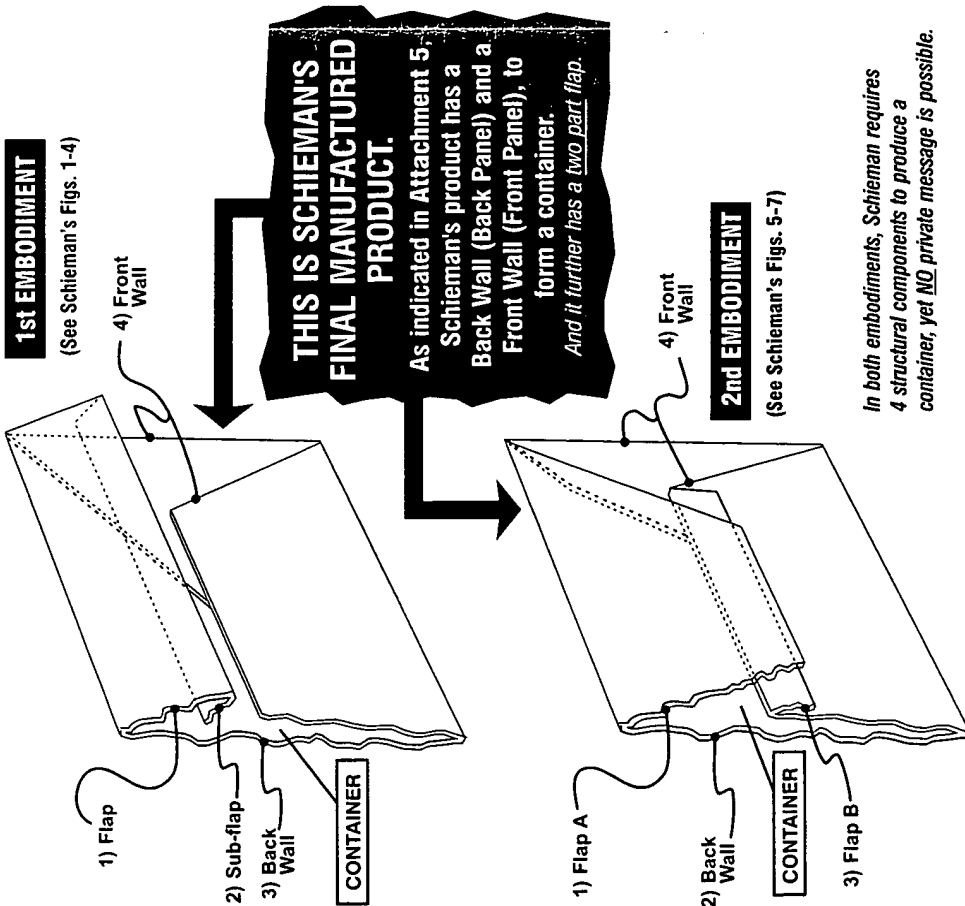
All in one production step, and one trip of the form across the printer.

See Figs. 7C, 9C, 10D-10F, 12C, 14B-14D, 17B-17D, 23B-23D, 24B-24E, 25C-25G

STRUCTURAL DIFFERENCES BETWEEN PRODUCTS

Products are compared after they are manufactured and offered to the public. Any 'USE' consideration, is excluded, as all claims in this application are 'product' claims

CROSS SECTION VIEW OF SCHIEMAN'S ENVELOPE



CROSS SECTION VIEW OF SELF SEALING FORMS

(908/978,215)

THIS IS 09/978,215'S FINAL PRODUCT.

As indicated in Attachment 5, This invention has only a body, and at least one flap, it does not have any 'panels' and it does not form a container. It does not even require any score lines.

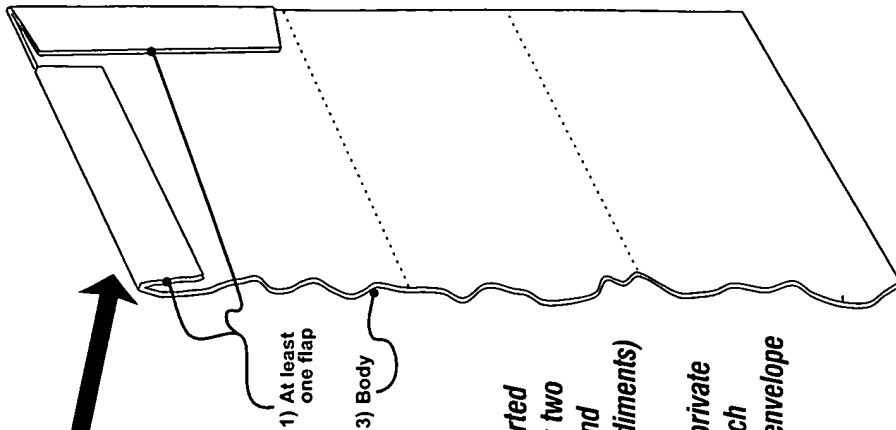
And further, its at least one flap, is always a single part flap.

1) At least one flap

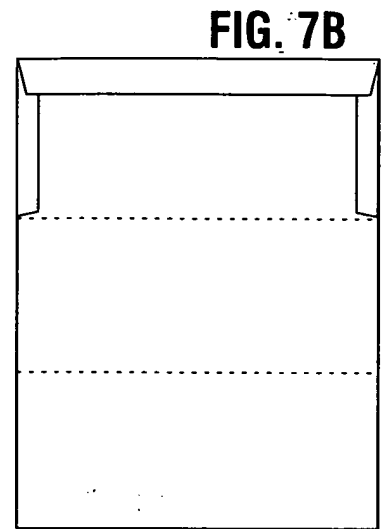
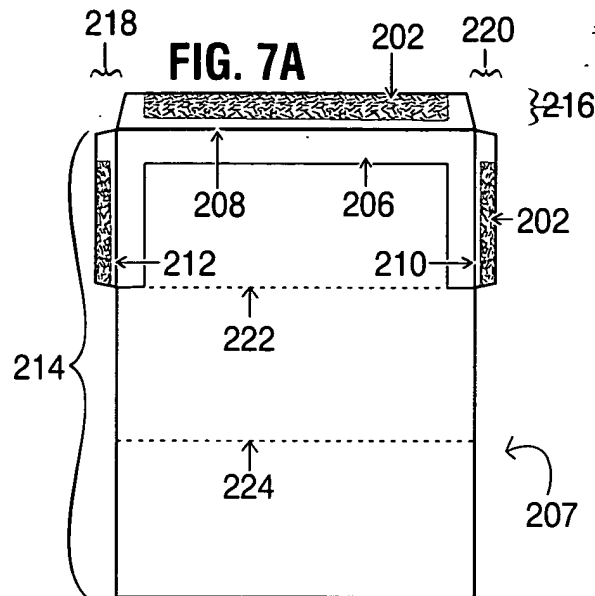
3) Body

Claims of this application, supported by the specification, require only two structural components: a body and at least one flap. (See all embodiments)

This application does provide a private message section (the body), which is lacked by Schieman, and NO envelope is required.



THESE TWO FIGURES (FIGS. 7A and 7B) DESCRIBE THE CLAIMED PRODUCT



THESE FOUR FIGURES (FIGS. 7C-7F) TEACH THE MODE OF USING THE MANUFACTURED PRODUCT

They represent **STEPS**, related to the function of the invention, and are disclosed in the specification to teach how to use the invention. Therefore, even if they were recited in the claims, they do not constitute a structural element.

FIG. 7C

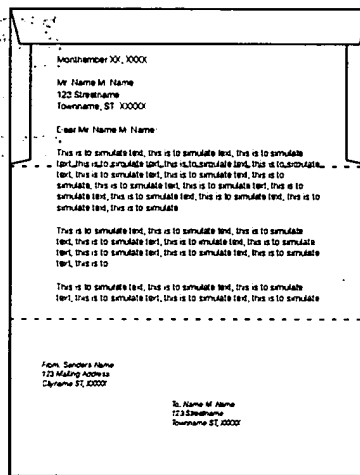


FIG. 7D

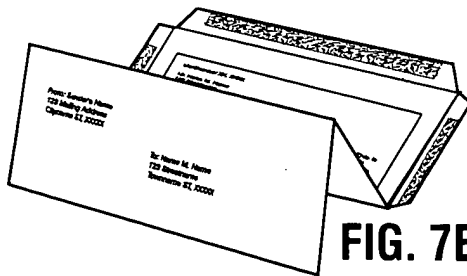
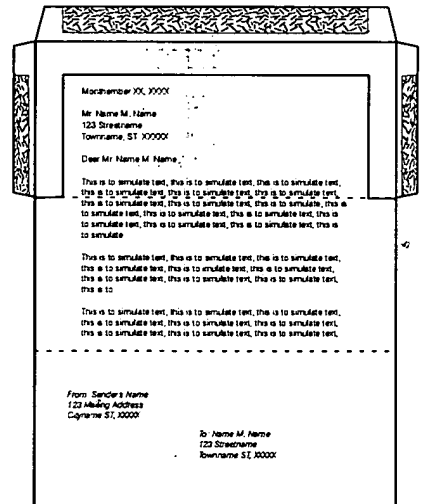


FIG. 7E

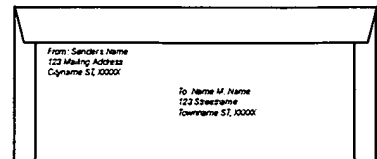


FIG. 7F

Fastening Method With Multiple Applications

-Patents Pending-

SELF-SEALING NON-CONTINUOUS FORM I

This embodiment represents a completely new product solving existing needs.

The invention permits the production of a self contained form, consisting of a message or document, having self wrapping attributes and built integrally as one piece from one single blank of paper or other sheet material.

The form can be fed through any non-continuous printer (e.g. Laser, Inkjet, Litho, Thermal, etc.) for the simultaneous personalized imprinting of a private message and a readily visible message, such as addressing indicia, with one single computer command by the user.

As an added advantage, and by virtue of this simultaneous imprinting, the risk of any mismatch of message and addressee is completely eliminated.

Also, due to its envelope + message dual function, and its lighter weight, substantial savings in postage are achieved.

By further applying discretionary lines of perforation for the selective detachment of sections of the form, multiple other tasks can be achieved with this embodiment. Checks, forms, statements, receipts, official notices, etc. can be produced in a highly time and cost effective manner.

Also, by implementing these detachable sections, a record can be originated for the sender, obviating thereby the need to make copies.

All of this is further enhanced by the capability of the form to also nest other articles.

The embodiment disclosed here is one of a plurality of my patent pending invention: "**Fastening Method With Multiple Applications**" merely as a way of example. © 1999 Luis Rodriguez. All rights reserved.

SELF SEALING NON-CONTINUOUS FORM I

An illustrative embodiment of
"Fastening Method With Multiple Applications"

© 1999 Luis J. Rodriguez

CLAIMED PRODUCT

STEPS RELATED TO USE

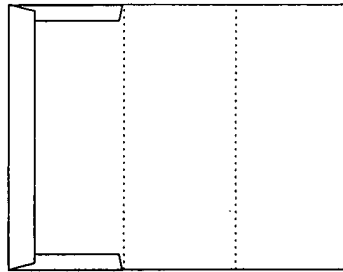


FIG. 1

Form is shown **the way it is sold**. Flaps are folded. Adhesive coatings are temporarily fastened to release coatings. Form has a rectangular shape and can now be fed into a non continuous printer or press (Laser, Inkjet, litho, thermal, etc); or to be filled by hand or typewriter.

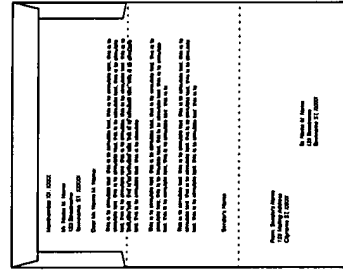


FIG. 2

Form is printed. Private message appears on two first panels of the form. Addressing information appears on third panel.

PARTS OF THE FORM



Adhesive coatings

Release Coatings

Both, Adhesive and Release Coatings are substantially clear/transparent. Pattern and gray colors are used ONLY for purposes of illustration and identification. (Unless color is preferred, in which case, it can be discretionarily used)

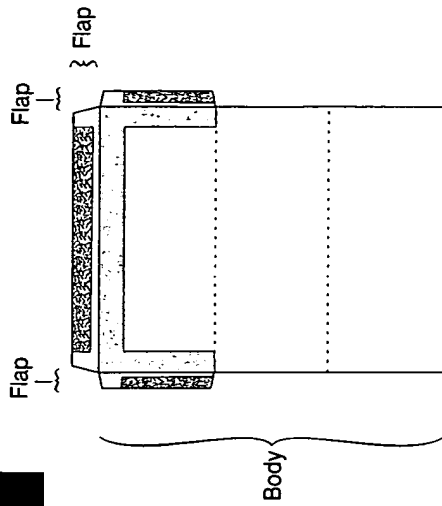


FIG. 3

Flaps are unfolded.

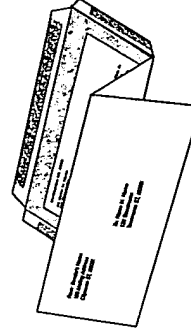


FIG. 4

Body is fan-folded.

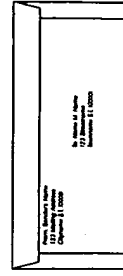


FIG. 5

Flaps are folded towards third panel, sealing the form.



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TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

Patent Application of

Luis J. Rodriguez

for

TITLE: [SELF SEALING FORMS] SELF SEALING LETTER SHEETS**CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS**

This is a division of Ser. No. 09/130,534 filed August 04, 1998, now U.S. Patent 6,406,586, which is a continuation-in-part of Ser. No. 09/093,301 filed June 08, 1998, now abandoned, which is a continuation-in-part of Ser. No. 08/986,394, filed Dec. 08, 1997, now abandoned.

BACKGROUND-FIELD OF THE INVENTION

This invention relates to [forms,] letter sheets particularly to such [forms] letter sheets that can be self sealed, obviating thereby the need [of] for an envelope. The term [form] "letter" in this application [encompasses letters, documents, forms, and any type of correspondence. A form can also be described as a mailer or any other equivalent term. The term self sealing form is equivalent to the term "self contained form" as disclosed in co-pending parent application 09,130,534, which is hereby incorporated by reference in its entirety.] relates to a blank of a sheet material susceptible of bearing text and/or graphics whether manually, mechanically or otherwise created. Accordingly, the term "self sealing letter" relates to a letter sheet so defined, and which additionally does not require an envelope to cover it to provide privacy, as the letter sheet of the present invention can readily cover itself. For the purpose of this disclosure, the word "letter" in the term "letter sheet" does not have a size restricting connotation; i.e., it should not be construed to indicate a "letter size" sheet, but instead it applies to any dimensions which enable the embodiment of the disclosed invention.

BACKGROUND-DESCRIPTION OF PRIOR ART

Whether it is one individual piece or a massive list of pieces, personalization is a ruling constant in any mailing project in today's private and public sectors. Hence, functionality, economy and versatility are very desirable qualities associated with these projects.

Many attempts have been made to achieve these qualities, aimed at designing mailing products that do not require an envelope, or that produce the message and a cover for it in one single step, and most of these efforts have been restricted to continuous feeding systems (e.g. web presses and friction printers) as opposed to non-continuous or sheet fed printers (e.g. laser, inkjet, thermal and litho printers.)

The following are notable exponents of the known art:

U.S. Patent **4,586,651** to Bradley, assigned to Bedford Engineering Co. of Armonk, NY; U.S. Patent **5,125,562** to Bendel; U.S. Patent **5,398,867** to Murphy; U.S. Patent **5,553,774** to Goodno, assigned to Moore Business Forms, Inc. of Grand Island, NY; and U.S. Patent **5,640,835** to Muscoplat.

These are specific shortcomings of these exponents of the known art:

- 1) No **[system]** product addresses both, continuous and non continuous feeding printing needs,
- 2) Some of these **[systems]** products require the forming of enclosure and envelope separately, utilizing thereby additional materials and assembly time, also increasing the postage cost due to its higher weight,
- 3) Some of these **[systems]** products require double sided printing of the piece, increasing the costs and also increasing the risk of mismatch due to human error,
- 4) Some of these **[systems]** products require a complex industrial set-up, limiting thereby the options of the end user, and preventing the on-location final output by the end user,
- 5) Some of these **[systems]** products use unprotected and exposed coatings of adhesive, during the preparation, printing and forming of the piece, compromising thereby the effectiveness of the adhesive, the appearance of the finished piece, the privacy of the message, and the good flow of the overall project,
- 6) Some of these **[systems]** products require adhesive coatings to be moistened to promote

adhesion, and some require the production, mounting and then the peeling of a liner to expose the adhesive, incurring thereby in additional steps and costs.

Also, related to these self contained [forms,] letter sheets, the USPS (United States Postal Service) sells some non-continuous [forms] pieces that don't require an envelope for mailing.

One version is sold under the name "Aerogramme", which appears to be intended mainly for letters and similar correspondence.

Another version is sold under the name "Bright Eyes Stamps", (**product # 9840020**) made of a card stock and, with decorative imprinting on it, which appears to be intended for greetings and similar correspondence.

Both products require layers of dry adhesive to be moistened for sealing of the [form,] piece which constitutes its first disadvantage.

Another significant disadvantage resulting from this system is the inability to feed the [form] piece through any sheet fed printer and especially a desktop printer for personalized imprinting.

And yet another disadvantage is the need to enter the addressing information on the outside of the [form,] piece, as an additional step.

There is also a self seal mailer in the marketplace by Avery Dennison Corp. of Pasadena, CA, (**Product # 8325**) bearing a patent pending notice, which is an 8 ½ x 11" rectangular sheet with two score lines, dividing the rectangle in three panels, and having a narrow extension of about 5/8" (For a total length of 11 5/8") that carries a layer of pressure sensitive adhesive and which needs to be protected by a removable strip carrying a release substance.

This self seal mailer has the following disadvantages:

- 1) It is necessary to separately produce and then affix this strip liner, which represents additional manufacturing costs that obviously translate into a higher retail price.
- 2) It is necessary to remove and then discard this strip liner to seal the mailer.
- 3) It is necessary to install and use customizing software prior to printing of the form via a computer, due to the extension that causes the form to have a non standard size, as those pre-formatted by most word processing, desktop publishing, accounting and other

computer programs.

4) The additional costs associated with this software.

5) The need to print separately the message and the addressing information.

6) Due to its open side panels, the contents of the message can be easily seen by anyone with just a minimal effort. Hence, the mailer can not be used when privacy and confidentiality are desirable.

7) This product is only suitable for non-continuous printers.

Also, at a very massive level, there are some mailing [systems] products that provide a message and means to reply, for the recipient to fill-out an enclosed form, in certain cases or a detachable [form] portion in other cases. They appear more expensive and complicated than the “two-way” self sealing [mailers] letter sheets of the present invention.

One of the most common systems of the prior art requires the use of multiple layers of paper treated with carbon on its back, which suggests a high cost of production, and in the second aspect (the reply piece), the recipient must either peel off and discard a release bearing strip or moisten a dry adhesive coating.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

In accordance with the present invention, a self sealing **[form]** letter sheet that is suitable for feeding into any type of printer is obtained from a **[sheet]** flat, flexible material and comprises a body, one or more flaps, one or more layers of an adhesive substance and one or more layers of a release substance, that are arranged so when the flap(s) are bent towards the body, the adhesive substance layer(s) face the release substance layer(s), preventing a permanent connection, and which defines the final product, i.e. the way it is offered to the public.

Subsequently, the user can seal the letter by positioning another section of the sheet material between the adhesive and release substance layer(s). **[and the positioning of another section of the sheet material between the adhesive and release substance layer(s) permit the sealing of the form.]**

The following are objects and advantages of this invention:

- a) to provide a **[form]** letter sheet that can wrap itself;
- b) to provide a **[form]** letter sheet that can as a result obviate the need of an envelope;
- c) to provide a **[form]** letter sheet that can as a result obviate the need to insert a message bearing piece into an envelope;
- d) to provide a system that permits the practical and economical production of self contained **[forms,]** letter sheets such as **[letters,]** missives, business and legal forms, accounting and legal correspondence, advertising messages, etc. for the personalized printing of both, a private message and the address and return information as well as any other information, with one single printing command, and one single trip of said **[form]** letter sheet across the printer;
- e) to provide a **[form]** letter sheet that as a result can save paper, thanks to its **[form]** letter plus envelope dual function;
- f) to provide a **[form]** letter sheet that can be customized to suit continuous and non continuous feeding systems, making possible its use with virtually any industrial, commercial and personal printers, and the handling of long runs, short runs or individual printing

assignments;

g) to provide a [form] letter sheet that can increase the efficiency of personalized printing by including additional areas that can become separate personalized documents as cards, stubs, etc., after they are detached, which in combination with an enclosure, as a return envelope, for example, can maximize the results of a personalized mailing project;

h) to provide a [form] letter sheet which can further provide nesting capabilities that enable the insertion of enclosures;

i) to provide a [form] letter sheet that can satisfy a diversity of personalized mailing specifications, by working in conjunction with software customized to said specifications, creating additionally other marketing opportunities;

j) to provide a [form] letter sheet which can be readily sealed, and which does not require moistening of dry adhesive layers;

k) to provide a [form] letter sheet which can be readily sealed, and which does not require the production, affixing and subsequent removal of a release liner to protect adhesive coatings;

l) to provide a [form] letter sheet which can be readily sealed, and which does not require the use of adhesive tapes, staples or any other fastening means;

m) to provide a [form] letter sheet that can offer absolute privacy and confidentiality, by requiring the absolute and deliberate opening of it to expose its message;

n) to provide a [form] letter sheet that offers flexibility for full compliance with private and public mailing/courier system requirements;

o) to provide a self sealing [form] letter sheet which can further include attached thereto another self sealing [form] letter sheet that may serve as a reply piece;

p) to provide a self sealing [form] letter sheet that can discretionarily be processed by hand.

REFERENCE NUMERALS

202 fastener layer

204 optional and alternative lower strength fastener layer

206 fastener inhibitor layer

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

FIG. 1: is a plan view of layers of adhesive, lower strength adhesive and adhesive inhibitor, as respective examples of a fastener, a lower strength fastener and a fastener inhibitor.

FIG. 2A: is a perspective view of a pattern arrangement of layers on two opposite planes.

FIG. 2B: is a perspective view of the pattern arrangement of **FIG. 2A** now having another plane between them.

FIG. 3A: is a perspective view of a pattern arrangement of layers on two opposite planes.

FIG. 3B: is a perspective view of the pattern arrangement of **FIG. 3A** now having another plane between them.

FIG. 4A: is a perspective view of a pattern arrangement of layers on two opposite planes.

FIG. 4B: is a perspective view of the pattern arrangement of **FIG. 4A** now having another plane between them.

FIG. 5A: is a perspective view of a pattern arrangement of layers on two opposite planes.

FIG. 5B: is a perspective view of the pattern arrangement of **FIG. 5A** now having another plane between them.

FIG. 6A: is a perspective view of a pattern arrangement of layers on two opposite planes.

FIG. 6B: is a perspective view of the pattern arrangement of **FIG. 6A** now having another plane between them.

FIG. 7A: is a plan view of a self sealing [form,] letter sheet, illustrating the layers used.

FIG. 7B: is a plan view of the [form] letter sheet of **FIG. 7A**, having the flaps bent.

FIG. 7C: is a plan view of the [form] letter sheet of **FIG. 7B**, after printing occurred.

FIG. 7D: is a plan view of the [form] letter sheet of **FIG. 7C**, having the flaps unbent.

FIG. 7E: is a perspective view of the [form] letter sheet of **FIG. 7D**, being fanfolded.

FIG. 7F: is a plan view of the [form] letter sheet of **FIG. 7E**, fully folded and sealed.

FIG. 8: is a plan view of a self sealing [form,] letter sheet, having pre-printed indicia.

FIG. 9A: is a plan view of a self sealing [form,] letter sheet, illustrating the layers used.

FIG. 9B: is a plan view of the [form] letter sheet of FIG. 9A, having the flaps bent.

FIG. 9C: is a plan view of the [form] letter sheet of FIG. 9B, after printing occurred.

FIG. 9D: is a plan view of the [form] letter sheet of FIG. 9C, having the flaps unbent.

FIG. 9E: is a perspective view of the [form] letter sheet of FIG. 9D, being fanfolded.

FIG. 9F: is a plan view of the [form] letter sheet of FIG. 9E, fully folded and sealed.

FIG. 10A: is a plan view of a [form,] letter sheet, illustrating the layers used.

FIG. 10B: is a plan view of the [form] letter sheet of FIG. 10A, having the flaps bent.

FIG. 10C: is a plan view of the [form] letter sheet of FIG. 10B, after printing occurred.

FIG. 10D: is a plan view of the [form] letter sheet of FIG. 10C, having the flaps unbent.

FIG. 10E: is a perspective view of the [form] letter sheet of FIG. 10D, being folded.

FIG. 10F: is a plan view of the [form] letter sheet of FIG. 10E, fully folded and sealed.

FIG. 11: is a plan view of a self sealing [form,] letter sheet after printing occurred, and having the flaps unbent.

FIG. 12A: is a plan view of a self sealing [form,] letter sheet illustrating the layers used.

FIG. 12B: is a plan view of the [form] letter sheet of FIG. 12A, having the flaps bent.

FIG. 12C: is a plan view of the [form] letter sheet of FIG. 12B, after printing occurred.

FIG. 12D: is a plan view of the [form] letter sheet of FIG. 12C, having the flaps unbent.

FIG. 12E: is a perspective view of the [form] letter sheet of FIG. 12D, being fanfolded.

FIG. 12F: is a plan view of the [form] letter sheet of FIG. 12E, fully folded and sealed.

FIG. 13: is a plan view of a self sealing [form,] letter sheet, after printing occurred, having the flaps unbent.

FIG. 14A: is a plan view of a self sealing [form,] letter sheet, illustrating the layers used.

FIG. 14B: is a plan view of the [form] letter sheet of FIG. 14A, having the flaps bent.

FIG. 14C: is a perspective view of the [form] letter sheet of FIG. 14B, after printing occurred, being fanfolded.

FIG. 14D: is a plan frontal view of the [form] letter sheet of FIG. 14C, fully folded and sealed.

FIG. 14E: is a plan rear view of the [form] letter sheet of FIG. 14D.

FIG. 15A: is a partial plan view of a web of self sealing [forms,] letter sheets, illustrating the layers used.

FIG. 15B: is a perspective view of the web of FIG. 15A, illustrating a sequence of [forms] letter sheets in assembled and folded condition.

FIG. 16: is a partial plan view of a web of self sealing [forms,] letter sheets, having preprinted indicia.

FIG. 17A: is a plan view of a self sealing [form,] letter sheet, illustrating the layers used.

FIG. 17B: is a plan view of the [form] letter sheet of FIG. 17A, having the flaps bent and after printing occurred.

FIG. 17C: is a perspective view of the [form] letter sheet of FIG. 17B, being folded.

FIG. 17D: is a perspective view of the [form] letter sheet of FIG. 17C, in a later stage of its folding.

FIG. 17E: is a plan rear view of the [form] letter sheet of FIG. 17D.

FIG. 17E: is a plan front view of the [form] letter sheet of FIG. 17E.

FIG. 18: is a partial plan view of a web of self sealing [forms,] letter sheets, illustrating the layers used.

FIG. 19A: is a plan view of a self sealing [form,] letter sheet, illustrating the layers used.

FIG. 19B: is a plan view of the [form] letter sheet of FIG. 19A, having the flap bent, and after printing occurred.

FIG. 19C: is a perspective rear view of the [form] letter sheet of FIG. 19C, being folded.

FIG. 19D: is a front plan view of the [form] letter sheet of FIG. 19C fully folded and sealed.

FIG. 20A: is a plan partial view of a web of [forms,] letter sheets, illustrating the layers used.

FIG. 20B: is a plan partial view of the web of [forms] letter sheets of FIG. 20A, having its flap bent, and after printing occurred.

FIG. 20C: is a plan view of a [form] letter sheets detached from the web of FIG. 20B.

FIG. 20D: is a perspective view of the [form] letter sheet of FIG. 20C, being folded.

FIG. 20E: is a plan view of the [form] letter sheet of FIG. 20D folded and sealed.

FIG. 21: is a plan partial view of a web of [forms,] letter sheets, further illustrating traction holes.

FIG. 22A: is a plan view of a self sealing [form,] letter sheet, illustrating the layers used.

FIG. 22B: is a plan view of the [form] letter sheet of FIG. 22A, having its flap bent, and after printing has occurred.

FIG. 22C: is a perspective view of the [form] letter sheet of FIG. 22B, being folded.

FIG. 22D: is a plan view of the [form] letter sheet of FIG. 22C, folded and sealed.

FIG. 23A: is a plan view of a self sealing [form,] letter sheet, illustrating the layers used.

FIG. 23B: is a plan view of the [form] letter sheet of FIG. 23A, having its flap bent, and after printing has occurred.

FIG. 23C: is a perspective view of the [form] letter sheet of FIG. 23B, being folded.

FIG. 23D: is a plan view of the [form] letter sheet of FIG. 23C, folded and sealed.

FIG. 24A: is a plan view of a dual self sealing [form,] letter sheet, containing a response self sealing [form] letter sheet section, and illustrating the layers used.

FIG. 24B: is a plan view of the dual [form] letter sheet of FIG. 24A, having the flaps bent, and after printing has occurred.

FIG. 24C: is a plan view of the dual [form] letter sheet of FIG. 24B, having its flaps unbent.

FIG. 24D: is a perspective view of the dual [form] letter sheet of FIG. 24C, being fanfolded.

FIG. 24E: is a plan view of the dual [form] letter sheet of FIG. 24D fully folded and sealed.

FIG. 24F: is a perspective view of the first step of opening the dual [form] letter sheet of FIG. 24E.

FIG. 24G: is a perspective view of the second step of opening the dual [form] letter sheet of FIG. 24F.

FIG. 24H: is a plan view of the dual [form] letter sheet of FIG. 24G, opened and unfolded.

FIG. 24I: is a perspective view of the dual [form] letter sheet of FIG. 24H, illustrating the detachment of the reply section.

FIG. 24J: is a plan view of the reply section of FIG. 24I.

FIG. 24K: is a plan view of the reply section of FIG. 24J, having the flaps unbent.

FIG. 24L: is a perspective view of the reply section of FIG. 24K, being folded.

FIG. 24M: is a plan front view of the reply section of FIG. 24L, fully folded and sealed.

FIG. 24N: is a plan rear view of the reply section of FIG. 24M, fully folded and sealed.

FIG. 25A: is a plan view of a dual self sealing [form,] letter sheet containing a response self sealing [form] letter sheet section, and illustrating the layers used.

FIG. 25B: is a plan view of the dual [form] letter sheet of FIG. 25A, having the flaps bent.

FIG. 25C: is a plan view of the dual [form] letter sheet of FIG. 25B, after printing has occurred.

FIG. 25D: is a plan view of the dual [form] letter sheet of FIG. 25C, having its flaps unbent.

FIG. 25E: is a perspective view of the dual [form] letter sheet of FIG. 25D, being fanfolded.

FIG. 25F: is a perspective view of the dual [form] letter sheet of FIG. 25E, in a later stage of fanfolding.

FIG. 25G: is a plan view of the dual [form] letter sheet of **FIG. 25D** fully folded and sealed.

FIG. 25H: is a plan view of the dual [form] letter sheet of **FIG. 25G**, opened and unfolded.

FIG. 25I: is a perspective view of the dual [form] letter sheet of **FIG. 25H**, illustrating the first step to produce the reply section.

FIG. 25J: is a perspective view of the dual [form] letter sheet of **FIG. 25I**, illustrating the second step to produce the reply section.

FIG. 25K: is a plan view of the reply section of **FIG. 25J**.

FIG. 25L: is a plan view of the reply section of **FIG. 25K**, having the flaps unbent.

FIG. 25M: is a perspective view of the reply section of **FIG. 25L**, being folded.

FIG. 25N: is a plan front view of the reply section of **FIG. 25M**, fully folded and sealed.

FIG. 25O: is a plan rear view of the reply section of **FIG. 25N**, fully folded and sealed.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

FIGS. 1 through 6B are submitted in abstract form since they apply to all embodiments and combination of embodiments of this invention. These figures illustrate the different layers and different pattern arrangements of the layers that can be implemented to achieve the different fastening effects that enable the production of the multiple embodiments of this invention.

It is to be clearly understood that these pattern arrangements merely represent some examples. Different needs may require different patterns, and accordingly, a specific pattern or combinations of patterns will result obvious within the scope of this invention.

As stated before, it is an express and explicit aspect of this application that all the pattern arrangements of **FIGS. 2A through 6B** and any combination thereof apply to all embodiments of this application, and this is the purpose of their discussion in this specification.

REFERRING TO FIG. 1: It shows in plan view a fastener layer **202**, which as an example could be a pressure sensitive adhesive; a lower strength fastener layer **204**, which as an example could be a low tack pressure sensitive adhesive; and a fastener inhibitor layer **206**, which as an example could be a release substance.

Properties of fastener layers **202** and fastener inhibitor layers **206** may vary to suit different purposes, including the purpose of removably connecting a fastener layer **202** to a fastener inhibitor layer **206**.

REFERRING TO FIG 2A: It shows in perspective view a singular fastener layer **202** on plane **201**, facing a singular fastener inhibitor layer **206** on plane **203**. In this and subsequent references, planes **201** and **203** represent each a face or surface.

REFERRING TO FIG 2B: It shows in perspective view the layers of **FIG. 2A**, now having a two sided plane **205** free of any layers positioned between planes **201** and **203**, that will connect to fastener layer **202** when in contact with it. In this and all subsequent references, each side of plane 205 represents a face or surface.

In these **FIGS. 2A** and **2B** as well as in all subsequent references, planes **201**, **203** and **205** can respectively correspond to 3 different plies of a folded piece of a sheet material.

REFERRING TO FIG. 3A: It shows in perspective view a fastener layer **202** alternated with a fastener inhibitor layer **206** on plane **201**, facing another fastener layer **202** alternated with a fastener inhibitor layer **206** on plane **203**, arranged so the fastener layer of one plane face the fastener inhibitor layer of the other plane and vice versa.

REFERRING TO FIG 3B: It shows in perspective view the layers of **FIG. 3A**, now having a two sided plane **205** free of any layers between planes **201** and **203**, that will connect to fastener layers **202** when in contact with them.

REFERRING TO FIG. 4A: It shows in perspective view a sequence of fastener layers **202** alternated with fastener inhibitor layers **206** on plane **201**, facing another sequence of fastener layers **202** alternated with fastener inhibitor layers **206** on plane **203**, arranged so the fastener layers of one plane face the fastener inhibitor layers of the other plane and vice versa.

REFERRING TO FIG 4B: It shows in perspective view the layers of **FIG. 3A**, now having a two sided plane **205** free of any layers positioned between planes **201** and **203**, that will connect to fastener layers **202** when in contact with them.

REFERRING TO FIG. 5A: It shows in perspective view a sequence of fastener layers **202**, alternated with fastener inhibitor layers **206**, lower strength fastener layers **204**, and a blank space (area with no layer) on plane **201** facing another sequence of fastener layers **202**, alternated with fastener inhibitor layers **206**, lower strength fastener layers **204** and blank spaces (areas with no layers) on plane **203**, arranged so the fastener layers of one plane face the fastener inhibitor layers of the other and vice versa and the lower strength fastener layers of one plane face the blank space(s) of the other and vice versa. A temporary fastening is allowed by the contact of the lower strength fastener layers **204** with the blank spaces.

REFERRING TO FIG 5B: It shows in perspective view the layers of **FIG. 5A**, now having a two sided plane **205** free of any layers positioned between planes **201** and **203**, that will connect to fastener layers **202** when in contact with them.

REFERRING TO FIG. 6A: It shows in perspective view a lower strength fastener layer **204** on plane **201**; facing plane **203**, with no layer.

REFERRING TO FIG 6B: It shows in perspective view the lower strength fastener layer **204** on plane **201** and no layer on plane **203**, and having between them a two sided plane **205** that will temporarily connect to the lower strength fastener layer **204**, when in contact with it.

The preceding figures are only some illustrative examples. The layers described can have any form, as for instance, curvilinear, zig-zag, etc. and a combination of any forms. Can be related to any geometrical shape, as for instance, rectangle, triangle, polygon, circle, ellipse, etc, and any combination thereof. Likewise, the layers may be in the periphery of such geometrical shape, and/or the entire area of said geometrical shape.

It is further explicitly disclosed as an aspect of this specification that the pattern arrangements illustrated by these figures and corresponding text apply to all the embodiments of this invention.

EMBODIMENT EXAMPLES: It is to be understood that the described and illustrated embodiments merely represent some examples. After applying the principles described, and in combination with the multiple pattern arrangements of layers possible, illustrated with examples of preceding **FIGS. 2A-6B**, and any combination thereof, other embodiments and combination of embodiments will result obvious within the scope of this invention. Also, the position of the adhesive layers and adhesive inhibitor layers may be in inverse order in all embodiments. Attributes of adhesive and adhesive inhibitor (e.g. release) substances may vary to suit different fastening needs, as for instance: the need to temporarily connect a coating of adhesive to a coating of adhesive inhibitor.

Closely related embodiment figures have the same number but different alphabetic suffixes. The terms used in the description of embodiments are intended to be exemplifying, and by no means to be restrictively construed, as obvious equivalents may be applied and substitutions may take place within the scope of the invention.

For instance: "score" or "score lines" are illustrative examples of any means of weakening a sheet material for subsequent folding; "die cut" is an illustrative example of cutting a sheet material into a shape or to remove a shape out of a sheet material; "perforation lines" is an illustrative example of any means of weakening a sheet material for subsequent detachment of a portion thereof. Score or folding lines may also be substituted by printed guides, or

may simply be omitted.

Also, a fastener is exemplified by an adhesive and a fastener inhibitor is exemplified by an adhesive inhibitor (e.g. a release substance)

"Sheet material" is any flexible flat material, and includes but is not limited to: paper, cardboard, film, acetate, and the like. A particular mention is made of a product known in the market as "Tyvek™" by Dupont Corp. of Wilmington, DE; and of another product being commercialized in conventional paper sizes by Xerox Corp. of Rochester, NY, under the commercial name ["Never Tear Paper™"] "Never Tear Paper™" that may be used whenever suitable or [desirable"] desirable.

Indicia shown in all embodiments is only for purposes of illustration. It is to be understood that any type of indicia may be [inscripted] inscribed on the forms, within the scope of the invention.

Also, whether it is shown or not, all embodiments may incorporate **a)** detachment means (e.g. perforation lines) to enable the instant production of separate pieces; **b)** openings that enable the creation of windows, that may have or may not have a translucent cover; **c)** traction holes, to enable the feeding of the forms through traction printers; [and] as well as any other features established in the industry.

1st EMBODIMENT EXAMPLE: [FIG. 7A through FIG. 7F inclusive illustrate in a progressive manner the application of this invention to build a three panel self sealing form,] FIGS. 7A and 7B progressively illustrate the application of this invention to produce a self sealing letter sheet suitable for feeding into laser printers and other non continuous printers. This and other examples are for illustration purposes, to show some preferred embodiments. Some shown elements, like score lines may be desirable in certain instances but are not an indispensable aspect of the invention, as indicated above.

REFERRING TO FIG. 7A: A previously die or otherwise cut sheet 207 has score lines 208, 210 and 212 separating the body 214 from flaps 216, 218 and 220, respectively. Adhesive layers 202, [are] were applied to the flaps. An adhesive inhibitor layer 206 [is] was applied

to the body. Score lines **222** and **224** [are] were applied to the body.

REFERRING TO FIG. 7B: Flaps are bent towards the body, connecting temporarily to it, [enabling the form to be fed through a printer.] defining the finished product, as it is offered for sale to the public. The finished self sealing letter sheet is now ready to be fed through a printer by the user.

FIGS. 7C through 7F further demonstrate the utilization of this product by the user.

FIG. 7C shows the self sealing letter sheet after it was printed. FIG. 7D shows the self sealing letter sheet after flaps were unfolded. FIG. 7E shows the self sealing letter sheet being folded, so the private message will be covered and the addressing information will be readily visible. FIG. 7F shows the self sealing letter sheet fully sealed and displaying the addressing information.

[REFERRING TO FIG. 7C: Form is printed so a private message is on first two panels, while addressing information is printed on third panel.

REFERRING TO FIG. 7D: Flaps are unfolded.

REFERRING TO FIG. 7E: Body is being folded in its final pattern, so private message is covered and addressing information is readily visible.

REFERRING TO FIG. 7F: Flaps are bent attaching to third panel, to seal the form.]

An alternate of this embodiment is illustrated with **FIG. 8**, where the [form] letter sheet has pre-printed a blank check indicia, has perforation lines **226** and **228**, for the subsequent detachment of the check and other sections, after personalized imprinting takes place.

Another alternate [three panel self contained form] letter sheet (not shown) of this 1st and any subsequent embodiment is obtained by omitting the adhesive inhibitor layer **206** and using a dry adhesive substance as the adhesive layers **202**, that is activated by its moistening. For the temporary connection of the flaps to the body, a low tack adhesive **204** is used, interacting with a facing space that has no layer of any substance.

2nd EMBODIMENT EXAMPLE: [FIG. 9A through FIG. 9F inclusive illustrate in a progressive manner the application of this invention to build a three panel self sealing

form,] FIGS. 9A and 9B progressively illustrate the application of this invention to produce a self sealing letter sheet suitable for feeding into laser printers and other non continuous printers.

REFERRING TO FIG. 9A: A previously die or otherwise cut sheet **207** has score lines **208**, **210** and **212** separating the body **214** from flaps **216**, **218** and **220**, respectively. Adhesive layers **202**, [are] were applied to the flaps. An adhesive inhibitor layer **206** [is] was applied to the body. Score lines **222** and **224** [are] were applied to the body.

REFERRING TO FIG. 9B: Flaps [are] were bent towards the body, connecting temporarily to it, [enabling the form to be fed through a printer.] defining the finished product, as it is offered for sale. The finished self sealing letter sheet is now ready to be fed through a printer by the user.

FIGS. 9C through 9F further demonstrate the utilization of this product by the user.

FIG. 9C shows the self sealing letter sheet after it was printed. FIG. 9D shows the self sealing letter sheet after flaps were unfolded. FIG. 9E shows the self sealing letter sheet being folded, so the private message will be covered and the addressing information will be readily visible. FIG. 9F shows the self sealing letter sheet fully sealed and displaying the addressing information.

[REFERRING TO FIG. 9C: Form is printed so a private message is on first two panels, while addressing information is printed on third panel.

REFERRING TO FIG. 9D: Flaps are unfolded.

REFERRING TO FIG. 9E: Body is being folded in its final pattern, so private message is covered and addressing information is readily visible.

REFERRING TO FIG. 9F: Flaps are bent attaching to third panel, to seal the form.]

3rd EMBODIMENT EXAMPLE: [FIG. 10A through FIG. 10F inclusive illustrate in a progressive manner the application of this invention to build a two panel self sealing form,] FIGS. 10A and 10B progressively illustrate the application of this invention to produce a

self sealing letter sheet suitable for feeding into laser printers and other non continuous printers.

REFERRING TO FIG. 10A: A previously die or otherwise cut sheet **207** has score lines **208**, **210** and **212** separating the body **214** from flaps **216**, **218** and **220** respectively. Adhesive layers **202**, [are] were applied to the flaps. An adhesive inhibitor layer **206** [is] was applied to the body. Score line **222** [is] was applied to the body. Windows **230** and **232** were obtained from original cut.

REFERRING TO FIG. 10B: Flaps [are] were bent towards the body, connecting temporarily to it, [enabling the form to be fed through a printer.] defining the finished product. The self sealing letter sheet is now ready to be fed through a printer by the user.

FIGS. 10C through 10F further demonstrate the utilization of this product by the user.

FIG. 10C shows the self sealing letter sheet after it was printed. FIG. 10D shows the self sealing letter sheet after flaps were unfolded. FIG. 10E shows the self sealing letter sheet being folded, so the private message will be covered and the addressing information will be readily visible through the windows. FIG. 10F shows the self sealing letter sheet fully sealed and displaying the addressing information.

[REFERRING TO FIG. 10C: Form is printed so addressing information appears on top, followed by a private message.

REFERRING TO FIG. 10D: Flaps are unfolded.

REFERRING TO FIG. 10E: Body is being folded, so addressing information will appear through the windows.

REFERRING TO FIG. 10F: Flaps are bent to seal the form.]

An alternate of this embodiment is illustrated with **FIG. 11**, where the [form] letter sheet is used to produce a personalized official message.

Another alternate [three panel self contained form] letter sheet (not shown) of this 3rd embodiment is obtained by omitting the adhesive inhibitor layer **206** and using a dry adhesive substance as the adhesive layers **202**, that is activated by its moistening. For the

temporary connection of the flaps to the body, a low tack adhesive 204 is used, interacting with a facing space that has no layer of any substance.

4th EMBODIMENT EXAMPLE: [FIG. 12A through FIG. 12F inclusive illustrate in a progressive manner the application of this invention to build a two panel self sealing form,] FIGS. 12A and 12B progressively illustrate the application of this invention to produce a self sealing letter suitable for feeding into laser printers and other non continuous printers.

REFERRING TO FIG. 12A: A previously die or otherwise cut sheet 207 has score lines 208, 210 and 212 separating the body 214 from flaps 216, 218 and 220 respectively. Adhesive layers 202, [are] were applied to the flaps. An adhesive inhibitor layer 206 [is] was applied to the body. Score line 222 [is] was applied to the body.

REFERRING TO FIG. 12B: Flaps [are] were bent towards the body, connecting temporarily to it, [enabling the form to be fed through a printer.] defining the finished product. The self sealing letter sheet is now ready to be fed through a printer by the user.

FIGS. 12C through 12F further demonstrate the utilization of this product by the user.

FIG. 12C shows the self sealing letter sheet after it was printed. FIG. 12D shows the self sealing letter sheet after flaps were unfolded. FIG. 12E shows the self sealing letter sheet being folded. FIG. 12F shows the self sealing letter sheet fully sealed and displaying the addressing information.

[REFERRING TO FIG. 12C: Form is printed so addressing information appears on the top flap, and the private message appears on the body.

REFERRING TO FIG. 12D: Flaps are unfolded.

REFERRING TO FIG. 12E: Body is being folded.

REFERRING TO FIG. 12F: Flaps are bent to seal the form.]

[Another] An alternate of this embodiment is illustrated with **FIG. 13**, where the [form] letter sheet is used to produce a personalized tax form, having perforation lines 226, 227 and 228 to produce detachable sections.

Another alternate [three panel self contained form] letter sheet (not shown) of this 4th embodiment is obtained by omitting the adhesive inhibitor layer 206 and using a dry adhesive substance as the adhesive layers 202, that is activated by its moistening. For the temporary connection of the flaps to the body, a low tack adhesive 204 is used, interacting with a facing space that has no layer of any substance.

5th EMBODIMENT EXAMPLE: [FIG. 14A through FIG. 14E inclusive illustrate in a progressive manner the application of this invention to build a four panel self sealing form,] FIGS. 14A and 14B progressively illustrate the application of this invention to produce a self sealing letter sheet suitable for feeding into laser printers and other non continuous printers.

REFERRING TO FIG. 14A: A previously die or otherwise cut sheet 207 has score lines 208 and 210 separating the body 214 from flaps 216, and 218 respectively. Adhesive layers 202, [are] were applied to the flaps. Adhesive inhibitor layers 206 [are] were applied to the body. Score lines 222, 223 and 224 [are] were applied to the body. Windows 230 and 232 were obtained from original cut.

REFERRING TO FIG. 14B: Flaps [are] were bent towards the body, connecting temporarily to it, [enabling the form to be fed through a printer. Form was printed and addressing information appears on top, followed by a private message] defining the finished product, as it was sold. User already printed the letter.

FIGS. 14C through 14E demonstrate subsequent steps taken by the user. FIG. 14C shows the self sealing letter sheet being folded. FIG. 14D shows the self sealing letter sheet fully sealed and displaying the addressing information, in a front view. FIG. 14E shows the back view of the self sealing letter sheet fully sealed.

[**REFERRING TO FIG. 14C:** Flaps are unbent. Body is being fan-folded, so addressing information will appear through the windows.

REFERRING TO FIG. 14D: Flaps are bent to seal the form. (front view)

REFERRING TO FIG. 14E: sealed form is shown in rear view.]

An alternate [four panel self contained form] letter sheet (not shown) of this 5th embodiment is obtained by omitting the adhesive inhibitor layers 206 and using a dry adhesive substance as the adhesive layers 202, that is activated by its moistening, prior to permanently sealing the [form] letter sheet. For the temporary connection of the flaps to the body, a low tack adhesive 204 is used, interacting with a facing space that has no layer of any substance.

6th EMBODIMENT EXAMPLE: FIG. 15A and FIG. 15B illustrate a variation of the fifth embodiment example, to produce a continuous [form,] letter sheet, suitable for web presses and any other friction continuous printers.

REFERRING TO FIG. 15A: A web of a sheet material 209 having detachment lines 234 and 236, defining the limits of an individual [form] letter sheet 207 having all the parts of [form] letter sheet of FIG. 13A.

REFERRING TO FIG. 15B: An assembly of [forms] letter sheets is shown.

A variation of this [form] letter sheet is obtained by adding traction holes 211 to the web 209, as shown in FIG. 16.

7th EMBODIMENT EXAMPLE: [FIG. 17A through FIG. 17F inclusive illustrate in a progressive manner the application of this invention to build a four panel self sealing form,] FIGS. 17A and 17B progressively illustrate the application of this invention to produce a self sealing letter sheet suitable for feeding into laser printers and other non continuous printers.

REFERRING TO FIG. 17A: A previously die or otherwise cut sheet 207 has score lines 208 and 210 separating the body 214 from flaps 216, and 218 respectively. Adhesive layers 202, [are] were applied to the flaps. Adhesive inhibitor layers 206 [are] were applied to the body. Score lines 222, 223 and 224 [are] were applied to the body. Windows 230 and 232 were obtained on second panel from original cut.

REFERRING TO FIG. 17B: Flaps [are] were bent towards the body, connecting temporarily to it, [enabling the form to be fed through a printer. Form was printed and addressing

information appears on first panel. Private message is on third and fourth panel.] defining the finished product, as it was sold. User already printed the letter sheet.

FIGS. 17C through 17F demonstrate subsequent steps taken by the user.

FIG. 17C shows the self sealing letter sheet being folded. FIG. 17D shows a later stage of the folding of the letter sheet. FIG. 17E shows the back view of the self sealing letter sheet fully sealed. FIG. 17F shows the front of the letter sheet fully sealed, and having addressing information readily visible.

[REFERRING TO FIG. 17C: Flaps are unbent. Body is being folded, so addressing information will appear through the windows.

REFERRING TO FIG. 17D: A later stage of fan folding is shown.

REFERRING TO FIG. 17E: Flaps are bent to seal the form (rear view.)

REFERRING TO FIG. 17F: Flaps are bent to seal the form letter (front view.)]

An alternate [four panel self contained form] letter sheet (not shown) of this 7th embodiment is obtained by omitting the adhesive inhibitor layers **206** and using a dry adhesive substance as the adhesive layers **202**, that is activated by its moistening, prior to permanently sealing the [form.] letter sheet. For the temporary connection of the flaps to the body, a low tack adhesive **204** is used, interacting with a facing space that has no layer of any substance.

8th EMBODIMENT EXAMPLE: FIG. 18 is a web of a sheet material **209** having detachment lines **234** and **236**, defining the limits of an individual [form] letter sheet **207** having all the parts of [form] letter sheet of FIG. 16A. With traction holes **211**, the [forms] letter sheets are suitable for feeding into a traction printer. With, or without the traction holes, the [form] letter sheet is suitable for feeding into a friction printer.

In certain instances, as in the following 9th, 10th, 11th and 12th embodiment examples, privacy is not a critical aspect in a mailing project. Yet, it is desirable that the pieces have a certain size and or shape, for better handling and to conform to postal guidelines or regulations.

Thus, these embodiment examples describe a [form] letter sheet that while offering limited privacy, obviates the need of an envelope; and can be readily sealed after entering indicia, in accordance to postal and courier established practices. The [form] letter sheet also makes unnecessary the use of removable release strips and the use of dry adhesive coatings that need to be moistened for sealing.

Further customized advantages may be obtained by the use of “windows”, perforations that enable the instant production of detachable pieces, etc.

9th EMBODIMENT EXAMPLE: [FIG. 19A through FIG. 19D inclusive illustrate in a progressive manner the application of this invention to build a four panel self sealing form,] FIGS. 19A and 19B progressively illustrate the application of this invention to produce a self sealing letter sheet suitable for feeding into laser printers and other non continuous printers.

REFERRING TO FIG. 19A: A sheet 207 has score line 208 separating the body 214 from flap 216. An adhesive layer 202, [is] was applied to the flap. An adhesive inhibitor layer 206 [is] was applied to the body. Score line 222 [is] was applied to the body.

REFERRING TO FIG. 19B: Flap [is] was bent towards the body, connecting temporarily to it, [enabling the form to be fed through a printer. Form was printed] defining the finished product, as it was sold. User already printed the letter.

FIGS. 19C through 19D demonstrate subsequent steps taken by the user.

FIG. 19C shows in rear view the self sealing letter sheet being folded. FIG. 19D shows in front view the self sealing letter sheet fully sealed.

[REFERRING TO FIG. 19C: Flap was unbent. Body is being folded. (Back view)

REFERRING TO FIG. 19D: (Front view) Form is sealed.]

An alternate [two panel self contained form] letter sheet (not shown) of this 9th embodiment is obtained by omitting the adhesive inhibitor layers 206 and using a dry adhesive substance as the adhesive layers 202, that is activated by its moistening, prior to

permanently sealing the [form.] letter sheet. For the temporary connection of the flaps to the body, a low tack adhesive 204 is used, interacting with a facing space that has no layer of any substance.

10th EMBODIMENT EXAMPLE: [FIG. 20A thorough FIG. 20E inclusive illustrate in a progressive manner the application of this invention to build a two panel self sealing form,] FIGS. 20A and 20B progressively illustrate the application of this invention to produce a self sealing letter sheet suitable for feeding into continuous printers.

REFERRING TO FIG. 20A: A web 209 has detachment lines 234 and 236, that define individual form 207. Score line 208 separates the body 214 from flap 216. An adhesive layer 202, [is] was applied to the flap. An adhesive inhibitor layer 206 [is] was applied to the body. Score/perforation line 222 [is] was applied to the body. Perforated (detachment) lines 213 [are] were applied.

REFERRING TO FIG. 20B: Flap [is] was bent towards the body, connecting temporarily to it, [enabling the form to be fed through a printer. Form was printed.] defining the finished product, as it is sold. User already printed the letters.

FIGS. 20C through 20D demonstrate subsequent steps taken by the user.

FIG. 20C shows an individual letter sheet detached from the web. FIG. 20D shows the flap unfolded and letter sheet being sealed. FIG. 20E shows the letter sheet fully sealed.

[REFERRING TO FIG. 20C: Individual form was detached from web.

REFERRING TO FIG. 20D: Flap was unbent. Form is being folded for sealing.

REFERRING TO FIG. 20E: Form is sealed.]

An alternate [two panel self contained form] letter sheet (not shown) of this 10th embodiment is obtained by omitting the adhesive inhibitor layers 206 and using a dry adhesive substance as the adhesive layers 202, that is activated by its moistening, prior to permanently sealing the [form] letter sheet. For the temporary connection of the flaps to the body, a low tack adhesive 204 is used, interacting with a facing space that has no

layer of any substance.

A variation of the 10th embodiment [mailer,] letter sheet with all its parts and ramifications, is illustrated by FIG. 21 further incorporating holes 211 for use with a tractor printer.

11th EMBODIMENT EXAMPLE: [FIG. 22A thorough FIG. 22D inclusive illustrate in a progressive manner the application of this invention to build a three panel self sealing form,] FIGS. 22A and 22B progressively illustrate the application of this invention to produce a self sealing letter sheet suitable for feeding into laser printers and other non continuous printers.

REFERRING TO FIG. 22A: A sheet 207 has score line 208 separating the body 214 from flap 216. An adhesive layer 202, [is] was applied to the flap. An adhesive inhibitor layer 206 [is] was applied to the body. Score lines 222 and 224 [are] were applied to the body.

REFERRING TO FIG. 22B: Flap [is] was bent towards the body, connecting temporarily to it, [enabling the form to be fed through a printer. Form was printed] defining the finished product, as it was sold. User already printed the letter.

FIGS. 22C through 22D demonstrate subsequent steps taken by the user.

FIG. 22C shows the self sealing letter sheet being folded. FIG. 22D shows the self sealing letter sheet fully sealed.

[REFERRING TO FIG. 22C: Flap was unbent. Body is being folded.

REFERRING TO FIG. 22D: (Back view) Form is sealed.]

An alternate [three panel self contained form] letter sheet (not shown) of this 11th embodiment is obtained by omitting the adhesive inhibitor layers 206 and using a dry adhesive substance as the adhesive layers 202, that is activated by its moistening, prior to permanently sealing the [form.] letter sheet. For the temporary connection of the flaps to the body, a low tack adhesive 204 is used, interacting with a facing space that has no layer of any substance.

12th EMBODIMENT EXAMPLE: [FIG. 23A thorough FIG. 23D inclusive illustrate in a progressive manner the application of this invention to build a three panel self sealing form,]

FIGS. 23A and 23B progressively illustrate the application of this invention to produce a self sealing letter sheet suitable for feeding into laser printers and other non continuous printers.

REFERRING TO FIG. 23A: A sheet 207 has score line 208 separating the body 214 from flap 216. An adhesive layer 202, [is] was applied to the flap. An adhesive inhibitor layer 206 [is] was applied to the body. Score lines 222 and 224 [are] were applied to the body. Window 230 was cut out.

REFERRING TO FIG. 23B: Flap [is] was bent towards the body, connecting temporarily to it, [enabling the form to be fed through a printer. Form was printed] defining the finished product, as it was sold. User already printed the letter.

FIGS. 23C through 23D demonstrate subsequent steps taken by the user.

FIG. 22C shows the self sealing letter sheet being folded. FIG. 23D shows the self sealing letter sheet fully sealed, and displaying the addressing information.

[REFERRING TO FIG. 23C: Flap was unbent. Body is being folded.

REFERRING TO FIG. 23D: Form is sealed. Addressing information appears thorough the window.]

An alternate [three panel self contained form] letter sheet (not shown) of this 12th embodiment is obtained by omitting the adhesive inhibitor layers 206 and using a dry adhesive substance as the adhesive layers 202, that is activated by its moistening, prior to permanently sealing the [form.] letter sheet. For the temporary connection of the flaps to the body, a low tack adhesive 204 is used, interacting with a facing space that has no layer of any substance.

OTHER EMBODIMENTS

There are mailing assignments that require a reply from the recipient of the piece. In these cases, it may be desirable to include means for instant reply, so this convenience maximizes the effectiveness of the assignment. A reply card, which may be detached from the original piece may suffice in certain cases. In others where privacy is desirable, this

card is not viable.

A solution is provided by the following 13th and 14th embodiment examples, which disclose “two-way” self sealing [mailers,] letter sheets, built out of one blank of a [sheet] flat, flexible material, and readily sealable, obviating thereby the use of two envelopes. In other words, a [mailer] letter sheet is sent to the recipient, who opens it, detaches a portion of it, fills it out, seals it as another [mailer] letter and sends it back to original remittent.

13th EMBODIMENT EXAMPLE: [FIG. 24A thorough FIG. 24N inclusive] FIGS. 24A and 24B illustrate in a progressive manner the application of this invention to build a two-way self sealing [mailer.] letter sheet.

REFERRING TO FIG. 24A: A sheet material blank 207 has a first [mailer] letter section 238 with main flaps 216, 218 and 220, and adhesive layers 202 and a release layer 206. First [mailer is] letter section is to be separated from second [mailer] letter section 244 by detachment line 234. Second [mailer] letter section 244 has flaps 246, 248 and 250; and adhesive layers 202 and release layers 206. Inner score lines 252 and 254 are applied. Outer score lines 256 and 258 are applied. Perforation lines 260 and 262 are applied across entire two-way [mailer.] letter sheet.

REFERRING TO FIG. 24B: All flaps were bent. (Flaps of second [mailer] letter section 244 were bent about inner score lines.) Adhesive layers connected in a removable fashion to release layers. Two-way [mailer] letter sheet is shown after it was printed by the user [was printed, containing] bearing a message on the first [mailer] letter section and a reply form for that message on the second [mailer.] letter section. Addressing information appears on the back side of flap 216.

FIGS. 24C through 24N demonstrate subsequent steps taken by the user.

FIG. 24C shows the flaps of the first letter section unfolded. FIG. 24D shows the letter sheet being fanfolded for sealing. FIG. 24E shows the letter sealed, further displaying the addressing information. FIG. 24F shows the tearing along perforated lines of one side as the first step of opening the letter sheet. FIG. 24G shows the tearing along perforated lines

of the other side as the second step of opening the letter sheet. FIG. 24H shows the letter opened and unfolded by recipient, and having its flaps removed. FIG. 24I shows the second (reply) letter section obtained by removing remnant of first letter section. FIG. 24J shows the second letter section fully detached. FIG. 24K shows the side flaps of the second letter section unbent and the second letter section filled out. FIG. 24L shows the second letter section being folded. FIG. 24M shows the flaps folded by outer score lines, and the second letter section sealed in front view, further displaying addressing indicia. FIG. 24N shows the sealed second letter section in rear view.

[REFERRING TO FIG. 24C: Flaps of first mailer are unfolded.

REFERRING TO FIG. 24D: Mailer is being fan-folded for sealing.

REFERRING TO FIG. 24E: Mailer is sealed.

REFERRING TO FIG. 24F: Tearing along perforated lines of one side, as the first step of opening the mailer.

REFERRING TO FIG. 24G: Tearing along perforated lines of the other side, as the second step of opening the mailer.

REFERRING TO FIG. 24H: Mailer has been opened and unfolded by the recipient.

REFERRING TO FIG. 24I: Second (reply) mailer is produced by removing remnant of first mailer.

REFERRING TO FIG. 24J: Second mailer is fully detached.

REFERRING TO FIG. 24K: Side flaps are unbent. Reply form (second mailer) is filled out.

REFERRING TO FIG. 24L: Reply form is being folded for sealing.

REFERRING TO FIG. 24M: Flaps are folded by outer score lines. Response is sealed. (front view) Pre-printed indicia is shown.

REFERRING TO FIG. 24N: Response is sealed (rear view.)]

14th EMBODIMENT EXAMPLE: [FIG. 25A thorough FIG. 25O inclusive] FIG. 25A and FIG. 25B illustrate in a progressive manner the application of this invention to build

another two-way self sealing [mailer.] letter sheet.

REFERRING TO FIG. 25A: A die-cut sheet 207 has a message panel 264, with flaps 216, 218 and 220, and adhesive layers 202 and release layer 206; a reply mailer 244, whose limits are defined by detachment lines 234 and 236, and with flaps 246 and 248; and adhesive layers 202 and release layers 206; and an addressing panel 266.

REFERRING TO FIG. 25B: All flaps are now bent. [Mailer] Letter sheet is [now in condition for feeding into a printer.] shown as it is marketed.

FIGS. 25C through 25O demonstrate the utilization of this product by the user.

FIG. 25C shows the letter sheet after it was printed by the user. FIG. 25D shows the flaps of the message panel unfolded. FIG. 25E shows the letter sheet being fan-folded for sealing. FIG. 25F shows a more advanced stage of the folding. FIG. 25G shows the letter sheet sealed and displaying addressing information. FIG. 25H shows the letter sheet after it was opened, unfolded and some flaps were removed by recipient. FIG. 25I shows the message panel being removed by recipient. FIG. 25J shows the addressing panel being removed. FIG. 25K shows the reply portion, ready to be used. FIG. 25L shows the reply portion after it was filled out, and having its flaps unfolded. FIG. 25M shows the reply panel being folded. FIG. 25N shows the reply panel sealed (rear view). FIG. 25O shows the reply portion sealed, and displaying pre-printed indicia (back view)

[REFERRING TO FIG. 24C: A message, along with a response form for the message and addressing information has been printed.

REFERRING TO FIG. 25D: Flaps 216, 218 and 220 of message panel 264 are unbent.

REFERRING TO FIG. 25E: Mailer is being fan-folded for sealing.

REFERRING TO FIG. 25F: A later stage of the fan-folding is shown.

REFERRING TO FIG. 25G: Mailer is sealed, and ready for delivery.

REFERRING TO FIG. 25H: Mailer has been opened and unfolded by recipient.

REFERRING TO FIG. 25I: Message panel 264 is being removed.

REFERRING TO FIG. 25J: Addressing panel 266 is being removed.

REFERRING TO FIG. 25K: Reply form is obtained.

REFERRING TO FIG. 25L: Reply is filled out. Flaps are unfolded.

REFERRING TO FIG. 25M: Reply form is being folded for sealing.

REFERRING TO FIG. 25N: Reply is sealed (Front view)

REFERRING TO FIG. 25O: Reply is sealed. Pre printed indicia is shown (back view.)

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